

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



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000218096

REGION 1 1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100

1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

July 10, 2002

Superfund Records Center SITE: <u>Petoson Aunte</u> BREAK: 10,02 OTHER: <u>21809L</u>

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Thomas L. Sansonetti, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Environment and Natural Resources Division
10th and Pennsylvania Avenues, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Re: Peterson/Puritan, Inc. Superfund Site, Cumberland, Rhode Island: Referral for Filing of Proof of Claim

Dear Mr. Sansonetti:

Enclosed please find a referral requesting the filing of a proof of claim in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings for Armstrong World Industries, Inc. ("Armstrong"). It is our understanding that this proof of claim must be filed by August 31, 2002.

Armstrong is a Potentially Responsible Party ("PRP") at Operable Unit Two of the Peterson/Puritan, Inc. Superfund Site (the "site") in Cumberland, Rhode Island. Operable Unit Two of the site was formerly used for disposal of wastes containing hazardous substances from 1954 to 1986. Within this period of time, the property was primarily used as a privately-owned, mixed municipal and industrial landfill. EPA has evidence that Armstrong generated hazardous substances that were shipped to the site during the period in which the landfill was in operation.

Additional details regarding the site, investigatory actions, and EPA costs are discussed in the enclosed bankruptcy referral. In anticipation of this referral, regional staff has been in contact with David Street of your office. The regional attorneys assigned to this matter are Wendoly Ortiz Langlois (617-918-1040) and Michelle Lauterback (617-918-1774). The lead technical contact is David J. Newton (617-918-1243).

Thank you for your time in reviewing this document.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Varney

Regional Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Michelle Lauterback, EPA, Enforcement Counsel, OES Wendoly Ortiz Langlois, EPA, Enforcement Counsel, OES David J. Newton, EPA, Remedial Project Manager, OSRR David Street, DOJ, Trial Attorney